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THE

GOLDEN GROVE.

A

CHOICE MANUAL,

CONTAINING

WHAT IS TO BE BELIEVED, PRACTISED, AND DESIRED OR PRAYED FOR;

The Prayers being fitted to the several Days of the Week.

To which is added,

A GUIDE FOR THE PENITENT.

ALSO,

FESTIVAL HYMNS,

According to the manner of the Ancient Church.

COMPOSED FOR THE USE OF THE DEVOUT, ESPECIALLY OF YOUNGER PERSONS.

BY JEREMY TAYLOR, D.D.

OXFORD,
JOHN HENRY PARKER.
MDCCCXLIII.

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The present edition of the GOLDEN GROVE has been printed from that published in 1680 (the twelfth), and carefully collated with the first edition published in 1655, with the folio copy of 1657, and with some later editions. The Scripture references have been verified; and an endeavour has been made to restore the whole, as nearly as possible, to those editions published during the life of the Author, and which contain his last corrections.

The title, *Golden Grove*, has by some been supposed to be imaginary. It was selected by the Author doubtless from the place in which his treatise was completed—the *Golden Grove* in Carmarthenshire—the seat of the loyal and liberal

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sects, and giving countenance to that against which all power ought to stand upon their guard. There is now nothing left, but that we take care that men be Christians; for concerning the ornament and advantages of religion, we cannot make that provision we desire; *Incertis de salute, de gloria minime certandum.* For since they who have seen Jerusalem in prosperity, and have forgotten the order of the morning and evening sacrifice, and the beauty of the temple, will be tempted to neglect so excellent a ministration, and their assembling themselves together for peace, and holy offices, and be content with any thing that is brought to them, though it be but the husks and acorns of prodigals and swine, so they may enjoy their lands and their money with it; we must now take care that the

young men who were born in the Captivity, may be taught how to worship the God of Israel after the manner of their forefathers, till it shall please God that religion shall return into the land, and dwell safely, and grow prosperously.

But never did the excellency of Episcopal government appear so demonstratively and conspicuously as now. Under their conduct and order we had a Church so united, so orderly, so governed, a religion so settled, Articles so true, sufficient, and confessed, Canons so prudent and so obeyed, devotions so regular and constant, Sacraments so adorned and ministered, churches so beauteous and religious, circumstances of religion so grave and prudent, so useful and apt for edification, that the enemies of our Church, who serve the Pope in all

things and Jesus Christ in some, who dare transgress an institution and ordinance of Christ, but dare not break a canon of the Pope, did despair of prevailing against us and truth, and knew no hopes but by setting their faces against us to destroy this government, and then they knew they should triumph without any enemy. So Balaam the son of Bosor was sent for, to curse the people of the Lord, in hope that the son of Zippor might prevail against them that had long prospered under the conduct of Moses and Aaron.

But now instead of this excellency of condition and constitution of religion, the people are fallen under the harrows and saws of impertinent and ignorant preachers, who think all religion is a sermon, and all sermons ought to be

libels against truth and old governors; and expound chapters that the meaning may never be understood; and pray, that they may be thought able to talk, but not to hold their peace, they casting not to obtain any thing but wealth and victory, power and plunder. And the people have reaped the fruits apt to grow upon such crabstocks: they grow idle and false, hypocrites and careless; they deny themselves nothing that is pleasant, they despise religion, forget government, and some never think of heaven; and they that do, think to go thither in such paths which all the ages of the Church did give men warning of, lest they should that way go to the devil.

But when men have tried all that they can, it is to be supposed they will return to the excellency and advantages of the